renewing and expanding the Italian road network. However, he then goes on to argue what is at best a dubious proposition: that Trajan was somehow seeking to identify with Gaius Gracchus as a road builder in the populist Republican tradition. He has a long discussion of the rôle of the Augustan *regiones* in building a unified Italy that moves far beyond the exiguous evidence. Too often citations of evidence from very different historical periods are combined in unacceptable ways.

A final, major problem in a book about Roman roads in Italy is the simplicity of its geographical and topographical presentations. A discussion of the way that the Via Appia related to the towns of Minturnae and Terracina conveys no sense of the very different terrain that surrounds the two communities. GIS and CADD programs allow the geographer to think in new ways about such topics as the impact of terrain in shaping community relations, or changing visual comprehensions of the human and natural landscape through time. None of that potential has been used here. Even the Roman cartographical universe receives very uneven treatment. The Antonine Itinerary is mined for a variety of information. The Peutinger Table does not even appear in the index.

The book should have been more rigorously edited and rewritten. There are many repetitions and arguments that wander like sheep beside a consular road. Topics change with disconcerting rapidity. A brief consideration of the legal status of roads is quickly followed by random observations on the politics of paving initiatives. Extended discussions of Trimalchio and Roman Patavium seem only vaguely connected to the topic of the work. In the end, it becomes an impressionistic collection of observations on diverse aspects of roads within Roman society.

The obvious comparison to L.'s work is Raymond Chevallier's *Roman Roads* (Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1976). The latter volume provides a more comprehensive review of all aspects of the road evidence for the Western Empire. It presents the reader with a much better sense of how and what we know about Roman roads. L. provides a stimulating complement that must be used with caution. One can hope that he will develop his ideas in a fuller, better documented study.

University at Buffalo STEPHEN L. DYSON

CINNANUM TEMPUS

M. Lovano: *The Age of Cinna: Crucible of Late Republican Rome*. (Historia Einzelschriften 158.) Pp. 188. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2002. Paper, €39. ISBN: 3-515-07948-3.

Michael Lovano seeks to illuminate the political and military dynamics of the 80s B.C.E. from the perspective of L. Cornelius Cinna, thus transcending the well-known Sullan biases of the ancient historiographic tradition. The main body of this revisionist account comprises 135 pages, followed by an Epilogue, an Appendix on Ancient Sources, a Bibliography, an Index of Names, an Index of Sources, and an Index of Special Topics.

L.'s bibliography includes fifteen items by A. Keaveney, eighteen by E. Gabba, and twenty-eight by E. Badian, to mention only the most abundantly represented. Indeed, scarcely a page of the main text passes without a reference to Badian, and the book's principal merit may well lie in its potential use as a finding aid for scattered *scriptiunculae* by Badian and others. In a prologue, L. readily acknowledges his debts to his predecessors, but proposes to synthesize their work into an account that, if

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necessarily lacunose, can nevertheless make a bid for 'comprehensiveness' (p. 10). More cryptically, he promises 'a fuller treatment in light of new historical approaches and new evidence' (*ibid.*), though there is little evidence of either in the book that follows.

By 'comprehensiveness' L. mostly means diachronic narrative, and the book proceeds in a biographical vein for three chapters, followed by a round-up of events in the provinces, then a final chapter which, upon the murder of Cinna by mutinous troops, transfers its attention to the fates of his associates. A brief epilogue returns to Cinna himself. Throughout, L. confidently refers to a 'Cinnan faction' and even to 'Cinnans', a simplification which obfuscates more than it clarifies. The book has no single thesis but attempts to flesh out our picture of the 'Cinnan' side, which, L. tells us, was composed of a miscellany of constituencies and interests (no surprises here), and was dedicated to a more coherent political and military program than is often supposed (a reasonable correction, though L.'s reconstruction of this program is argued on thin evidence or *ex silentio*).

L. is especially anxious that we perceive Cinna himself as more complex than the rather shallow figure portrayed by ancient sources. We should, of course, expect as much of many others called into service as negative exempla. But few readers will be willing to follow L. when he turns to the work of apology. L. scoffs, for example, at sources that use the word 'massacre' to describe the executions in Rome carried out by the victorious 'Cinnans' (for which others would say 'Marians'); L. objects that the carnage was probably more limited than some sources suggest (pp. 45–7). But counting heads misses the point in several ways, not least because the public bloodbaths that characterized the decade were at once executions and acts of terror, and as the latter they were aimed less at the victims than at their survivors. L. later makes the same argument about a bloody day in the senate on orders of the younger Marius: 'Though some sources make out that the killing was much more widespread, these executions probably constituted a purge of only certain individuals who were suspected of collusion with Sulla or obstruction of the government's plans' (p. 126). This is awfully sanitized language for a day that saw, among other things, the statue of Vesta splattered with the gore of Q. Mucius Scaevola, *pontifex maximus*.

To clean up Cinna's image, L. must get beyond the generally pro-Sullan slant of ancient sources, many probably influenced by Sulla's own memoirs. One might therefore expect the book to offer a great deal of close analysis of the relevant texts. But this is anything but the case. L. quotes very few ancient texts, even in translation; and he quotes none in Greek or Latin beyond a word or two. Thus, though some two hundred Ciceronian *loci* appear in L.'s index, Cicero's own words appear in the book in only a handful of phrases, one of them misspelled (p. 73 n. 82). The rest appear in paraphrase, if at all; L.'s sporadic critical commentary is painfully unhelpful ('How much of this is Cicero's rhetoric, let the reader decide!', p. 88). Under the circumstances, L.'s comments on Cicero and other ancient writers in his Appendix on Ancient Sources seem something of an afterthought, offering general advice (followed by L. himself?) about paying attention to context.

In the end, it is disappointing that L., having promised in his prologue 'new historical approaches', ends his appendix and hence his book with the following advice: 'The student of this time period must be cognizant of the sources' perspective and careful of their biases and must try to extract from each source the greatest possible amount of reliable information' (p. 159). Not even the reader who finds in this an adequate account of the work of the historian will close *The Age of Cinna* feeling satisfied.

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